

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during 1990 and 1991 so far;

(c) the action taken against the persons involved therein;

(d) the number of customs officials found involved in these cases and the action taken against them; and

(e) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As reported in the Economic Times of October 31, 1991, 2 cases have been booked by the Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence in 1990 in which fake firms claimed drawback by heavily over-invoicing the value of cotton blouses exported. In 1991, 2 more cases were booked by the same agency against fictitious firms who claimed drawback on exports without actually effecting any exports.

(c) and (d). Persons found involved are liable for penalty in departmental adjudication and prosecution in courts of law. Two cases have been adjudicated and personal penalty of Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 2 lakhs imposed on two persons. In two other cases, investigations are still in progress. One person has been arrested.

The Customs Officers found involved will be liable for disciplinary action. The cases are at present under investigation.

(e) The Customs formations have been alerted about this modus operandi and have been directed to ensure proper examination of export cargo.

Setting up of Naval base at Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu

4835. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a Naval base in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Export of Beer and other Alcoholic drinks

4836. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand for beer and other alcoholic drinks in Arabian and East European countries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to explore the possibility of exporting beer and other alcoholic drinks to the above countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Beer and alcoholic drinks are already being exported from India to West Asian and East European countries. Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) promotes exports of these items through participation in international trade fairs, development of product literature/audio visual material brand

publicity, quality control, packaging development etc.

[English]

Import of Textile Machinery

4837. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow import of second hand textile machinery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Textile Engineering Industry has opposed the proposal; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Import of second hand textile machinery is already permitted in terms of Para 193 (1) of handbook of procedure AM 1990-93, subject to the fulfilment of the requirements/laid down. Application for import of second hand capital goods for textile units for a value upto Rs. 1.5 crore is to be made to the Office of CCI&E; New Delhi through the Office of Textile Commissioner, Bombay. Application for higher value is required to be made to Secretariat for industrial approvals, Ministry of Industry, New Delhi, direct. Such import of second hand machinery is permitted subject to the condition that advertisement procedure as per Para 164 of handbook of procedure is followed in addition to the other conditions stated in Para 193 thereof.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Export by Seafood Industry

4838. DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Sea Food Industry in trouble" appearing in the Indian Express dated November 10, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage exports by the seafood industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Government is aware of the newsitem

(b) The main points made in the newsitem are:

- (i) No representation of Sea Food Exporter Association of India (SEAI) on the Board of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and EIA.
- (ii) Ban on export of frog legs
- (iii) Need to bring about improvement in the peeling sheds.
- (iv) Fast development of Sea food industry had given